

In the HOUSE where LINCOLN DIED



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On the 12th of every February—the birthday of our first martyred President—eighteenthers regularly pack to overflowing the Lincoln Museum, that modest little house—now owned by the government—wherein Abraham Lincoln died. On this memorable date the three thousand and odd relics of the great civil war President are open to the public gaze.

Of all places of interest in the great white capital city this spot is the least conspicuous and least advertised, and yet the sightseer who once finds his way thither tarries long to contemplate what is probably the most complete aggregation of mementoes ever dedicated to any hero of history.

After Lincoln's assassination, on the night of April 14, 1865, in Ford's Theater, 10th street below F street, a lodger issuing from a house across the way saw the commotion upon the pavement, followed his way to the side of the wounded President—then being borne across the street—and directed the carriers to bring their burden into his lodging house, No. 516 10th street. This was done, and Mr. Lincoln died there at 7:22 the following morning. The house was then, as now, a modest brick structure of three stories and a basement. It had been built in 1849, and at the time of the tragedy was owned by William Peterson, who had his tailor shop in the basement story and took lodgers, mostly soldiers, in the rooms above. Later a printing establishment displaced the tailor shop, and thirteen years ago the Lincoln Memorial Association rented the building, installing within a collection of relics which has since grown to such proportions that a description of the "black republican" candidate. In 1861 he enlisted in the Union army, was mustered out in 1865, continued collecting his Lincolniana thereafter and in 1873 removed to Springfield, Ill., the home of the martyred President. He rented the Lincoln homestead and converted it into a museum. Through his influence property was purchased by the state. Upon condition that he should remain custodian as long as he lived he bequeathed the collection to the state, upon the advent of the Altried administration he was replaced by a friend of the governor, who by this act deprived Illinois of rich heritage. Mr. Oldroyd, in the year 1880, for the old street house, but Congress did not see fit to purchase the collection also. That they remain in the hands of the collector, who paid Uncle Sam \$100 per month rental for the building under an agreement that he should charge the public a nominal admission fee to partially reimburse him. The admissions, only averaging \$17 per month during the last 25 cents now imposed upon each visitor, or ordinary occasions, provides means for heating and lighting the building and maintaining the collections. Thus has the collector devoted forty-five years to this hobby, and every week or so still adds an interesting item to his vast accumulation. In his line he is a veritable "Cousin Pious," and, strange as it may seem, he never beheld the great man to whose memory his life work has been dedicated.

The visitor to the museum is admitted

upon the main-floor to a long hallway upon which opens, to the left, the front parlor, in which Mrs. Lincoln spent the night of the tragedy; also the back parlor, in which were assembled upon that tragic occasion the eminent men who awaited the President's death. These two doorways, however, are passed by upon entrance, the visitor being ushered first into a long and narrow room at the rear of the hall. This is the death chamber, now converted into a gallery of pictures representing the death scene, the lying in state at the Capitol and the state funeral in all of its many stages, including the processions in the eight different cities and towns at which the funeral stopped and the final entombment. There are twelve distinct sketches of the death-bed scene, the most authentic, in the collector's opinion, being one published in Leslie's Weekly just after the tragedy.

The candle with which the physicians heated the plasters applied to the dying President, wreaths from the coffin and the sheet music of ninety different funeral marches composed in Mr. Lincoln's memory are displayed in this room; also funeral paraphernalia taken from the catafalque, of one section of the wall is hung with framed copies of various newspapers and periodicals publishing tributes to the dead President, and most interesting of these is an issue of the Richmond Whig, which appears with mourning borders upon its columns and which pays an eloquent personal tribute to the man whom, in almost the preceding edition, it had bitterly assailed. Almost as valuable is an issue of the London Punch, another journal which had attacked Mr. Lincoln all through the war, but which, in the copy in question, published a mourning cartoon inscribed,

"Brittania Sympathizes with Columbia." Only recently Mr. Oldroyd has completed a collection of the thirty-three satirical caricatures which Punch had published during the war, and these are later to be added to the similar cartoons in another room.

The bed upon which Mr. Lincoln died originally occupied the northeast corner of this room. The little chamber was rented at the time by William T. Clark of Company D, 13th Massachusetts Infantry, whose photograph is framed upon the wall, together with the copy of a letter which the young soldier wrote to his sister immediately after the tragedy. In this Clark says:

"Everybody has a great desire to obtain some mementoes of my room, so that whoever comes in has to be closely watched for fear they will steal something." The candle described was presented by Clark to a sweetheart, who later donated it to the collection.

Back of the death chamber is a room occupied by the servants of the lodging house at the time of the tragedy. In this are now displayed a thousand biographies of Lincoln and volumes dealing with slavery and the war; also 250 sermons discussing the assassination; 500 magazines dating from '45 to '65, and containing articles relating to the great President; 3,000 newspaper clippings of the same purport; also numerous political handbooks, poems and burlesques circulated throughout his campaigns. One of the most interesting of

these bears upon the cover a cartoon depicting Mr. Lincoln wearing a crown and the title is "Abraham Africanus I." An original quotation of the negro market, dated Richmond, September 18, 1861, is here framed. Humanity is herein classified into nineteen commercial grades by a column printed upon the left of the page. The prices being filled in in blank spaces to the right. Thus on that date "No. 1 extra men" (the highest grade), were quoted at \$1,450 to \$1,500; "Common Men," \$1,100 to \$1,150; "Women, extra, sixteen to twenty-two years," \$1,200 to \$1,250; "Boys, four feet high," \$500 to \$550; "Boys, four feet six inches," \$1,200 to \$1,250; "Girls, four feet," \$1,000 to \$1,050, and "Girls, four feet," \$500 to \$550. A footnote by the broker added: "Families and scrubs sell in their usual proportions to above quotations. We would be pleased to see you down soon with a likely lot." Nearly are named posters offering rewards of \$100, \$200 and \$300 for runaway slaves.

Furniture from the Lincoln homestead at Springfield occupies a large room in the rear, which has been added since the tragedy. Among the most interesting relics shown here is a little desk, with pigeon holes, bought when Lincoln first went to housekeeping. Laid upon this is the framed copy of a letter from the donor, a former neighbor of the Lincoln family, whose husband was one day visited by the future President, carrying the desk, in two pieces, one under each arm. The donor quotes Mr. Lincoln as having said on that occasion:

"Will you take my old desk and give it to me in your house, as it is the first desk I used when I commenced to do business for myself? Mrs. Lincoln, in one of her letters, threw it in the street because it upset the ink." In this room are also exhibited Mrs. Lincoln's cook stove, a walnut cradle in which her children were rocked, often by the husband's own hand; his wooden office armchair, in which he sat when he wrote his first inaugural address; two horsehair sofas, a settee, and various other pieces of furniture escaping the great Chicago fire, which consumed nearly all of the family belongings. One of the most interesting pieces is a black walnut armed subject, upholstered in hair cloth, and to have been Mr. Lincoln's favorite chair at the homestead. Its extraordinarily tall back offers silent evidence in corroboration of this tradition. In this room are also displayed fifty original and distinct portrait photographs of Mr. Lincoln, the last taken by Brady, in meeting his request by Mr. Lincoln's friends as the best likeness among all photographs taken during his life. Brady, in meeting his request by Mr. Lincoln's friends as the best likeness among all photographs taken during his life, found the two in this attitude when he entered the room and requested them to hold the portrait until he had taken it; but the book, proclaimed over the large wall a Holy Bible, was in reality a photograph album.

Mr. Oldroyd, who has traced the circumstances attending the taking of each of the fifty photographs in the collection, says that in every case Mr. Lincoln was impetuous to sit. He was good natured, however, in this respect, as well illustrated by the conditions under which the celebrated "Gardner photograph" was taken. Gardner

was standing outside his studio on 7th street when Mr. Lincoln, on a brief respite from the White House, happened to stroll by. The enterprising and aggressive photographer invited the President above and he submitted without protest to the tortures of the posing process necessary in those old days of slow plates. In the same room are exhibited various engravings, plaster busts and masks of the late President, also 205 varieties of medals bearing his likeness. Among these is the bronze replica of a large memorial medal of gold for which 40,000 French citizens contributed 10 centimes each. France was then under the second empire and the imperial mint of Paris refused to strike off this medal dedicated to the ruler of a republic, hence the minting had to be done in Switzerland.

The Lincoln death mask by Clark Mills is displayed in the rear parlor of the old house, and beside it is the life mask by Leonard Volk, cast in April, 1860. Volk, who had accompanied the notification committee from Chicago, at the same time made molds from Mr. Lincoln's hands. Before placing the clay upon the right hand the sculptor asked the President-elect if he would not clench a bit of wood in the palm. Mr. Lincoln darted into the woodshed with one of Mrs. Lincoln's brooms and saved about five inches off the end of the handle, which is seen in the cast. Upon the walls of this room are scores of caricature lithographs used in the two Lincoln campaigns, the most striking being those by Currier and Ives, depicting the four candidates in various ridiculous antics.

An original black locust rail split by Lincoln hangs in the archway between the two parlors. It was removed from the fence of the old Lincoln log cabin by Gov. Ogelsby in 1860, and the collector has the affidavit of John Hanks, Lincoln's cousin, that it was split by the great "rail splitter" and other. At the time of the Lincoln obsequies it was carried in a mock funeral at Lancaster, Ky., and a piece of

the crepe with which it was then draped, still clings to it. The flag which caught Booth's spur and caused him to break his leg as he leaped from Mr. Lincoln's box, also the spur itself, shown in the front parlor, along with the key to the old arsenal prison which confined the conspirators and pieces of the ropes which hanged the latter. Original prints of the individual portraits of all of the conspirators are hung one above the other, some of the subjects being shown manacled and with aspects of bitter defiance. About all of the published sketches of the assassination, the flight and capture of Booth, the trial of the conspirators and their execution are hung nearby. But the grimmest relics in the entire museum are original prints from the remarkable series of photographs by Gardner, showing the execution of the conspirators, step by step until they are finally seen dangling, side by side, below the trap.

The entire tour of Booth from Ford's Theater to the Garrett farm was lately retraced by Mr. Oldroyd, who made photographs as he progressed. It was a tramp of eighty miles, but resulted in the collection of many statements which have gone into history. The collector is the author of a number of works concerning the martyr whom he has idolized for well-nigh a half century. It is his hope that the government will purchase his collection before the time comes when he can no longer care for it. With the aid of one of the government architects he has worked out a plan for the condemnation of the property on either side of the present museum building, the building of a fireproof wall about the entire structure, the additions of wings at the rear, and the conversion of the opened spaces in front into grass plots. This plan would enable him to acquire for the government many valuable Lincoln relics whose owners will not install them in a non-fireproof building. It will also add to the lighting of the rooms and enable the public to make a circuit of the house without overcrowding. The building on which Mr. Lincoln died is among the relics which are promised when a fireproof restorer is afforded.

JOHN ELFRETH WATKINS.

BEST FIELD FOR WOMEN WORKERS IN ENGLAND

BY LADY HENRY SOMERSET.

A letter received today has brought me a difficult question. It is not a new one, but one which we are constantly asked with wearisome repetition. The problem has been posed over for years. The solution is far off as yet.

Three girls, daughters of a professional man, with the average education of young English gentlemen, have been suddenly called on to earn their own living, and the question is, in what fields can they find their best chance to accomplish this? The subject has been worn threadbare, and yet, as I read this letter, I feel that it is one we cannot lightly lay aside. Truly it is a predicament in which no woman ought ever to be placed, for unless a man happens to have an income sufficient and secure to insure his being able to leave his daughters protected from the possibility of want, it is a positive crime to allow them to attain to adult life without insuring for them adequate training for some remunerative work or profession, even though they may never actually be called upon to become wage-earners. Indeed, to my mind it is almost equally a crime that any young people should be allowed to grow up without special training for some useful work, even though they may not need it as a bread-winning weapon. But unfortunately such wrong-doing is seldom recognized till it is too late to repair the evil.

But to return to the advice for which I was asked. The difficulties which present themselves are very great. The first thing such young women would have to recognize is that the ordinary education of a lady is scarcely by itself a marketable commodity; though it will add a great deal to

the value of any special talent or skill that may be possessed or acquired. If the girl can command some amount of social influence, it may enable its possessor to obtain a post as governess or companion in some private family, where she may find a more comfortable home, if not a very good salary. Teaching as a profession has become during the last few years very highly respected, and the salaries become larger, and the position taken by teachers improves, the necessary standard of attainment becomes correspondingly higher. In both public and the best private schools, university degrees are now almost always required, and in addition some knowledge of the art and science of teaching as well as practical training in the work.

An untrained woman may, however, still find positions open to her at salaries ranging from £18 to £30, where some amount of teaching is combined with the care of young children, and if she is sufficiently tactful to understand the exact limits of that vague phrase that she is allowed to "become one of the family," she may do useful work, and find herself valued and appreciated, but it is undeniable that as young women who undertake such a post should acquire, by careful reading and study, some knowledge of the elements of psychology as it relates to child nature, and receive some special training in kindergarten teaching and methods. The old idea that any pleasant, patient young woman was fitted to train children is fast passing away, and we are on the eve of a greater

change of thought in this branch of education, I believe, than in any other.

If proper introductions and recommendations can be obtained, some of the best posts to be found as English governess or companion governess in good foreign families (Russia, before the revolution commenced, offered one of the best fields), or in the capacity of what is in England called "nursery governess" (in French, institutrice) in the families of professional men, who often engage English women in order that their children may learn the language in the nursery. It cannot, however, be too often said that the young Englishwomen should accept any post abroad unless the introduction comes from well-known and reputable sources, for the positions are often very well remunerated, and life, as a rule, is enjoyable.

Supposing, however, these young women can still devote some time to training, it is of course easier to suggest openings, and there are at least three which are not at present overstocked, and first among these we may place elementary school teaching. No nobler work can be found than this, and from the individual point of view it has much to recommend it to those desirous of having an assured future.

(1) The training is cheaper than for most of other branches of teaching, or for other professions, but it must be entered on fairly young. After a general or high school education till seventeen or eighteen years of age (the latter is certainly preferable), a year should be spent as pupil teacher in an elementary school. For this either a special certificate or the Junior Oxford or Cambridge local certificate is a qualification. Then two years at a training college will cost £40, not of course, inclusive of holiday expenses or dress, followed by the government certificate examination. The Cambridge senior local honors certificate will qualify for entrance to the training college if supplemented by needlework and domestic

the economy, or candidates can compete for king's scholarships.

(2) The salaries in a London board school rise from £50 to £140 for assistant mistress, and from £140 to £200 for head mistress. In the country they are somewhat less, but the girl of average ability has a better chance of obtaining a head mistress's post.

(3) In the elementary schools age seems to be a recommendation rather than a drawback once the certificate has been obtained, while ordinary or high school governesses often find difficulty in obtaining posts at forty years of age. Another industry which offers increasing openings for women in teaching is in the position of elementary school teacher. A woman can almost always return to it should circumstances render it necessary.

(4) The pension assured is now £40 per annum at sixty-five years of age, or in some cases earlier, and will probably soon be higher, as the pension scheme is still in its infancy. The fact that in this profession the demand is at present beyond the supply is proved by the invitation to country teachers to apply for posts in the London board schools, which have hitherto been the subject of very keen competition.

The importance of the work itself cannot be exaggerated, for to the teachers is entrusted no less a work than molding the characters of the next generation, and now that ever-increasing power is placed in the hands of the people it becomes a work of the first national importance, and one that may well be considered worthy of the best energies and highest enthusiasm of any woman.

Another industry which offers increasing openings for women in teaching is in the position of elementary school teacher. A woman can almost always return to it should circumstances render it necessary. The training can, however, be acquired in a shorter time than in many other professions, from six to nine months with varied work in a good office being generally sufficient. It does not require any extraordinary talent. Indeed, one lady who is an authority on the subject says, "Cleverness is not required in an indexer, but a keen eye and a steady hand are necessary. The desirable quality

is clearness." A good sound education and much concentration are necessary, and the work is always interesting, and entails a continually increasing knowledge of the subjects to be indexed, so that it is saved from that ban of monotony which is the lot of many clerical jobs. Good salaries are earned, ranging from £100 to £150 per annum by those sufficiently qualified to obtain regular posts, out of which they obtain regular posts, out of which they obtain regular posts, out of which they obtain regular posts.

Many public bodies are, however, taking women indexes on their staff, and many newspapers also. Sir Alfred Harmsworth has put the library of the Daily Mail into the hands of women, and one of them is responsible for the daily index of the paper. Publishers' work, except in a few noteworthy instances, is badly paid, somewhat more than two good guineas being given for indexing a book of four or five hundred pages, though in the case of scientific or technical books five guineas would be only a fair price. It is probable that as the difference between good and bad indexes becomes better understood, they will be omitted altogether from books where they are not required, and better prices paid for better work when they are necessary.

To a very businesslike woman with abundant health, strength and energy, and a good deal of artistic taste and knowledge, house decorating and furnishing offers a very good opening. Several firms in London have for years been managed by women, and managed very successfully. If the necessary funds are forthcoming, the best way to acquire the requisite knowledge is to go as articled pupil to a good firm for one, two or three years. But if a premium cannot be paid, a post as assistant could probably be obtained at a small salary, and an assistant who used her brains, and cultivated tact, would probably in two or three years gain enough insight into the practical side of the work to be able to begin business later on her own account. If a woman is artistic, there is valuable work for her in this direction. She is the

intermediary between her clients and the practical tradespeople, and she is giving advice. There are many occasions on which such services will be most valuable, and many who realize that knowledge can do more than money, and that a lady will get a far better effect with small expense than an uneducated person with a large outlay.

The work itself is exceedingly interesting. As knowledge of art increases, the consciousness will grow that the furnishings of a private house or even of a single room should never be undertaken without reference to the person who is to occupy it. I once saw a flat which had been entirely redecorated and furnished while its owner was abroad. The scheme was strikingly rich and luxurious in color and design, but when its owner, a small, frail-looking elderly lady, dressed in tones of Quaker gray with delicate old lace, returned, the mistake was apparent at once. The poor little lady did not recognize her own home, and the next morning a message was sent to the decorator to undo all that had been done, and make it "as much as possible, as it was before." This surely was just one of those mistakes that any woman who had seen the owner or even the flat as she left it, would have been able to avoid, and yet education would have taught her that restraint and simplicity are two beautiful qualities in art.

But in such a profession something further is needed. First, business ability is required in dealing with the various tradesmen and work-people employed, and, secondly, a practical knowledge of their work,

which experience alone can give; a good head for calculation, and an eye for measure in overseeing details and in giving advice. There are many occasions on which such services will be most valuable, and many who realize that knowledge can do more than money, and that a lady will get a far better effect with small expense than an uneducated person with a large outlay.

The thought to keep constantly before us in all work, is that the discipline of the light is the only road to success; that all life may be lived on a high and exalted plane, or on a base and material one. Materialism is not needed to the broadening of the mind, but it is a necessary condition of any life, but it is to be found in all, among millions as much as among wage-earners. To keep before us the greatness of all labor, the unbounded possibilities of every life, the usefulness of every honest career, to ourselves to our task, and to master its fundamental principles, and then work them out as our talent or our scope allows, this is the great secret of joyous living. Good work should be put into everything we undertake, whether the remuneration is adequate or poor, for it has been truly said, "Good work cuts its own channel, and eventually controls its rate of compensation." If a girl feels when she first goes out into the labor market that her salary is small, and her work hard, let her take heart, and remember that she can make her training of life-long value by the way she receives it. A strong undoubted intention to succeed, a faith in the ultimate reward of honest work, and a determination to keep the best standards as the only ones toward which to aim, will in the end insure success in every career, and bring the real richness of life to the most drudging toiler, and although to such pleasure is often denied, happiness may yet be the atmosphere of life, upon which the circumstances can have no more effect than on the air we breathe.